

I will
try to do
the best I
can for the
dear children
but I will
write again
soon more
fully
y^r aff^l friend
Dorothy
M. Deans

28.th Jan / 70

would have written to you sooner
but I have been unable to do so. The sudden &
terrible affliction that has overtaken us has
rendered me unequal to writing but I will try
today to write a little. Mrs Balliett wrote you she
told me at my request I hardly know how to tell
you about Mr Kelly's illness it was so sudden.
He came home on the Friday to dinner I said
he would not take any dinner he did not feel
well & went up stairs, he had not complained
more for days before than he always did, but
I went in to the counting house on Friday morn-
-ning about one o'clock to bring George home
as he had had a chill the night before &
Mr Kelly looked very queer, so much so I thought
business or something was harassing him I said
to George on my way home. What ails your
father George has any thing gone wrong, no
he said nothing more than usual. When he
left us in the dining room to go up stairs, he

did not say he was much sick, but that he did not feel
very well, he had mixed himself some whiskey & water
but said he could not take it & stopped to tell us
to drink it it was nicely sweetened, I followed him
up stairs in a few minutes & he said he was
cold I covered him with several blankets but
still he said he was cold, internally cold but
that he often said, he said he believed he was
going to have a congestive chill & that he would
send for the Dr. I asked him what Dr. he said
either Dr. Richardson or Dr. Retcher, As Dr. Richard-
-son was the nearest I asked if it should be
him He said yes it may be best to send for
him. I sent & he came immediately, he said
there was no indication of a chill only the
chilly feeling that came with a cold for colds
were attacking every one, almost like an epide-
-mic. Mr. Kelly had a fever after the chilly feeling
but not extremely high. The Dr. gave him some
mild medicine that acted properly in the
middle of the night, On that night Friday
night while the fever was on him he said
you must all take care of yourselves now &

as the best you can - At the time it made no
impression on me for you know how depeped
he always was in sickness - For some weeks
he had complained of that irritation having
got down in his groin & suffering a great
deal from it, & all those parts were much swollen
during his sickness, He complained of slight pain
low down & oppression, the Dr. ordered I arranged
himself a bandage to support the parts swollen
& clothes dipped in a solution of cold water
& something is to be applied constantly. On
Saturday morning he seemed to be much better
I. much so if any one had asked me I would
have said he could go out by Monday. The
fever seemed to have left him & the Dr. thought
him better. Towards night Saturday night he
seemed more restless, the Dr. came in late &
ordered a flax seed poultice on the groin where
the Kelly had complained of pain, after going
away he came back again & said if the
poultice did not give relief to dip clothes
in cold water or apply ice to it. All night
Saturday night he was very restless & complained

of a burning sensation in the swollen parts. I
became uneasy & woke Frayra up & told him
to examine his Father & see if he thought him
worse than I was worried about him. Frayra
did so, but said he did not think so bad
of it as before he saw it. I felt quite
towards morning Mr Kelly got up to the chamber
in his own sleeping room - he got back to bed
& was very drowsy but that he always was
when he was sick. At eight o'clock the Dr
came & said he found Mr Kelly very ill that
a great change had come over him. I told
him I wanted to see Dr Stone, but at that
time there was no hope, mortification had
commenced, Dr Stone says that the irritation
Mr Kelly had, took the form of erysipelas.
& the inflammation was so violent, nothing
could be done, I don't feel as if I could
write any more now I will write again in
a few days. Frayra was very sick yesterday
but is better today, he went out a little while
today - Give my love to dear Papa & Matilda
I need not tell you how devoted & sad we are